

Congresses to get a time agreement from the Senator from Arkansas. So we are all working on this. I think by the time we get to tomorrow we will be a little clearer on the order and our pacing. It is just a matter of getting everybody focused. People are just flying in now from the break.

Mr. BOND. I thank the Senator from Maryland. We can have debate on the space station all night tonight, as far as I am concerned. For those who wish to debate a new entitlement program, that could go on as long as we want tonight. This facility is not being used otherwise. I hope that when we get ready to begin voting tomorrow, we will be able to have votes in a timely fashion.

At this point, the floor staff is checking with the leadership. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that there be a period for the transaction of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO SOPHIE GERSON

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Sophie Gerson, a remarkable New Yorker who provides a superb example of how one citizen can make an important difference. In particular, she has shown how one dedicated educator can pass on a brighter future to numerous young people. Through her dedication to education, as a parent, parent association leader, teacher, school board member and president, Sophie has been an important leader for better education in the city of New York and our Nation.

Sophie Gerson taught physical education and health in public junior high schools in lower income areas of New York City for over 36 years. She endured budget cuts, increases in class sizes and other adverse conditions to make sure all of her students would enjoy a healthier and more successful future. She imparted health skills, athletic skills, and the values of team work, sportsmanship, and healthy competition. She took an interest in coaching students in dance and, as a result, students were able to rise out of poverty by pursuing dance-related careers. Upon Sophie Gerson's retirement from teaching, her students composed the following tribute to her:

Mrs. Gerson gave new meaning to the word protect

Because she taught us to apply it to ourselves
We will not be a generation whose health is wrecked
And we'll put trophies she inspired on our shelves.

Recently, many of her former students paid the ultimate tribute that could be bestowed on a teacher by remembering and honoring Sophie many years after she had taught them at an award ceremony by the Puerto Rican Family Institute. She shall be missed.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session, the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a treaty and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 1995, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 6, 1996, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 1975. An act to improve the management of royalties from Federal and Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas leases, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2739. An act to provide for a representational allowance for Members of the House of Representatives, to make technical and conforming changes to sundry provisions of law in consequence of administrative reforms in the House of Representatives, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3103. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve portability and continuity of health insurance coverage in the group and individual markets, to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in health insurance and health care delivery, to promote the use of medical savings accounts, to improve access to long-term care services and coverage, to simplify the administration of health insurance, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3139. An act to redesignate the United States Post Office building located at 245 Centereach Mall on Middle Country Road in Centereach, New York, as the "Rose Y. Caracappa United States Post Office Building".

H.R. 3448. An act to provide tax relief for small business, to protect jobs, to create opportunities, to increase the take home pay for workers, to amend the Portal-to-Portal Act of 1947 relating to the payment of wages to employees who use employer owned vehicles, and to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the minimum wage rate and to prevent job loss by providing flexibility to employers in complying with minimum wage and overtime requirements under the act.

H.R. 3834. An act to redesignate the Dunning Post Office in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Roger P. McAuliffe Post Office."

H.R. 3680. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to carry out the international obligations of the United States under the Geneva Conventions to provide criminal penalties for certain war crimes.

H.R. 3870. An act to authorize the Agency for International Development to offer voluntary separation incentive payments to employees of that agency.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 1995, the enrolled bills were signed on August 6, 1996, during the adjournment of the Senate by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 1995, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 8, 1996, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3734. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201 (a)(1) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1997.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 1995, the enrolled bill was signed on August 8, 1996, during the adjournment of the Senate by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measure was read the second time and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3953. An act to combat terrorism.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on August 2, 1996 he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bill:

S. 1316. An act to reauthorize and amend title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the "Safe Drinking Water Act"), and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-3616. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3617. A communication from the Chief of the Office of Legislative Liaison (Programs and Legislative Division), Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a cost comparison study concerning the cost of operating the Base Operating Support at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3618. A communication from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing